CLAIMS

We claim:

1.   A system for processing a form, comprising:

an originating system associated with an originator;

a client system;

a center system;

a user system associated with a user;

an identifier-generating software module;

a form-handling software module in the client system comprising computer-executable code for sensing a request for the form by the originator, for entering first automatically extractable data onto an instance of the form, and for generating a command to produce the form for the originator;

an intercepting software module comprising computer-executable code for sensing the command to produce the form,

the identifier-generating software module thereupon generating an identifier uniquely identifying the instance of the form, and augmenting the instance of the form with the identifier;

a form-processing software module within the center system and comprising computer-executable code for storing an association of the identifier with the instance of the form, for receiving the augmented instance of the form after handling by the originator and/or user, for comparing the identifier of the received form against the association, and for automatically routing an image of the received form to a destination indicated in a corresponding entry in a configuration file.

2.   A system as in claim 1, in which the intercepting software module is a driver installed in the client system.

3.   A system as in claim 2, in which the command to produce the form is a command to a standard printer driver within the client system.

1   4.   A system as in claim 2, in which the command to produce the form is a

2   command to download the form to the originating system over a network.

1   5.   A system as in claim 1, further comprising a coordinating system

2   connected by network to both the client system and the center system for transmitting

3   information identifying the instance of the form to the center system from the client

4   system.

1   6.   A system as in claim 5, in which the coordinating system is a web service.